



# Town of Groton, Connecticut

45 Fort Hill Road  
Groton, CT 06340-4394  
Town Clerk 860-441-6640  
Town Manager  
860-441-6630

## Meeting Minutes

### Town Council

**Mayor James L. Streeter, Councilors Bruce S. Flax, Bill Johnson, Catherine Kolnaski, Deborah B. Monteiro, Frank O'Beirne, Jr., Deborah L. Peruzzotti, Paulann H. Sheets, and Harry A. Watson**

**Tuesday, March 2, 2010**

**7:30 PM**

**Town Hall Annex - Community Room 1**

#### REGULAR MEETING

#### **I. ROLL CALL**

*The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Streeter.*

Members Present: Mayor Streeter, Councilor Flax, Councilor Johnson, Councilor Kolnaski, Councilor Monteiro, Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., Councilor Peruzzotti, Councilor Sheets and Councilor Watson

*Also present were Town Manager Mark Oefinger, Town Clerk Betsy Moukawsher and Office Assistant Lori Watrous.*

#### **II. SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

*The Salute to the Flag was lead by Jim Musante.*

#### **III. RECOGNITION, AWARDS & MEMORIALS**

*None.*

#### **IV. RECEIPT OF CITIZENS' PETITIONS, COMMENTS AND CONCERNS**

*Richard Dixon, Route 27, realizes that with the current economy there are many things that cannot go forward, but he believes that sound economic development should be a priority. One of the few areas in Groton left for development is Flanders Road, which is in desperate need of water and sewer services. Mr. Dixon implored the Council to reinstate the discussion for the extension of utilities to this area and suggested that an attempt be made to get Federal funding for this project.*

*Jim Musante, 195 Seneca Drive, stated that the Town needs additional jobs and tax revenues now. He believes that installing sewer and water connections on Flanders Road can create additional jobs, and therefore additional revenue. Mr. Musante urged Councilors to make the Flanders Road project its first priority.*

*Tim Tylaska, 800 Flanders Road, gave a brief summary of the development of his property. He has already created 56 new jobs, increasing to 100 new jobs upon completion of the project. Mr. Tylaska developed his own public water supply company and brought in \$30,000 worth of clean sand for a sewer area. He remarked that if he had been aware of what it would take to develop this land, he never would have started the project.*

*Pat Sparkman, 52 Sound Breeze Avenue, Board of Directors of Sea-Legs, Inc., gave an overview of the Sea-Legs program which introduces children to sailing. Captain William Pinkney has made a presentation to the group and Ms. Sparkman requested that the Town acknowledge his generous offer of time.*

*George Korteweg, 178 Colonel Ledyard Highway, formerly owned a business on Flanders Road. At that time he had power for the building brought down from Route 184 and hired someone to take away waste. The current owner of the building now has three wells and contracts for two trucks to cart away waste. Mr. Korteweg feels that the land is good and should be developed.*

*John Sutherland, 32 Neptune Drive, suggested that if there is any overtime cost-savings for the Groton Police Department, the Town should eliminate the budget allocation for the Groton Long Point Police Department and hire two full-time police officers to be assigned to Groton Long Point during the peak three-month summer period. These officers would be assigned throughout the Town of Groton for the remainder of the year to potentially defray overtime costs in the Police Department.*

**V. RESPONSES TO CITIZENS' PETITIONS, COMMENTS AND CONCERNS**

*In response to Mr. Sutherland, Councilor Watson stated that the Town Manager is having a table prepared that charts how much citizens in different areas of Town pay for police services. Mr. Sutherland responded that allocating police costs by the value of a taxpayer's house is not relevant. This would be the same as considering whether a citizen has children in calculating his share of the education budget.*

*Councilor Monteiro stated that two years ago discussions were held with federal representatives regarding funding for the infrastructure of Flanders Road. No word was ever received from those discussions. Recently, stimulus funds were made available but this project did not qualify as a "shovel-ready" project.*

**VI. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**a. Approval of Minutes**

**2010-0048 Approval of Minutes (Town Council)**

**RESOLUTION ACCEPTING TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES**

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Town Council meeting of February 16, 2010 are hereby accepted and approved.

**This Matter was Adopted on the Consent Calendar.**

**b. Administrative Items**

**2010-0045 Special Trust Fund Contributions**

**RESOLUTION ACCEPTING CONTRIBUTIONS TO SPECIAL TRUST FUNDS**

Elinor Fillion - \$25.00 - Library Discretionary

Greg Coleman and Edwina Trentham - \$50.00 - Arts Cafe Miscellaneous

**This Matter was Adopted on the Consent Calendar.**

**c. Deletions from the Town Council Referral List**

**2010-0036 Connecticut Health Foundation Grant for Healthy Groton Month**

**This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.**

**2010-0038 Your Safety Company Grant**

**This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.**

**2010-0042 Public Hearing on FYE 2011 Proposed Budget**

**This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.**

**2010-0044 Historic Documents Preservation Grant (FY2011)**

**This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.**

**2010-0046 Connecticut Dial-A-Ride Grant**

**This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.**

**Passed The Consent Calendar**

**A motion was made by Councilor Watson, seconded by Councilor Monteiro, to adopt the Consent Calendar, including all the preceding items marked as having been adopted on the Consent Calendar.**

**The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Votes:** In Favor: 8 - Mayor Streeter, Councilor Flax, Councilor Johnson, Councilor Monteiro, Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., Councilor Peruzzotti, Councilor Sheets and Councilor Watson  
Abstain: 1 - Councilor Kolnaski

**VII. COMMUNICATION REPORTS (Other than Committee Reports)**

**a. Town Councilors**

*Councilor O'Beirne, Councilor Flax, Councilor Monteiro, and Mayor Streeter received emails regarding the budget.*

*Councilor Flax, along with Councilor Kolnaski and Councilor Watson, attended a Town Council/Board of Education/RTM Liaison Committee meeting.*

*Councilor Kolnaski attended a Ledge Light Health District meeting and was a guest reader to a third grade class at Catherine Kolnaski School. Councilor Kolnaski, along with Mayor Streeter and Councilor Peruzzotti, attended a Phase II School Design Committee meeting.*

*Councilor Monteiro was a judge at the Senior Center's Gong Show, and she attended a New London Ledge Lighthouse Foundation meeting.*

*Councilor Peruzzotti met with School Superintendent Kadri.*

*Mayor Streeter attended a fund-raiser for Donald and Katrina Stanford, the 15th Anniversary of the Friends of Fort Griswold, the change of command for Submarine Group II, the Senior Center Gong Show, and a Probate Court consolidation meeting. The Mayor met with the Town Manager, Director of the Public Works, and a Public Works engineer to discuss drainage problems on Judson Avenue. He also read to children at the University of Connecticut - Avery Point Campus as part of the Read Across America Program. Mayor Streeter noted that Former Town Historian Carol Kimball is in the hospital and wishes her a quick recovery.*

**b. Clerk of the Representative Town Meeting**

*The RTM is currently preparing for upcoming budget sessions.*

**c. Clerk of the Council**

*The Town Council is currently preparing for upcoming budget sessions.*

**d. Town Manager**

*Mr. Oefinger reminded everyone that the final event for "One Book Every Child" will be March 6, 2010. He stated that the Human Services Department has four special funds that individuals may donate to. The Town Manager is in the process of finalizing his budget, which will be ready on March 15, 2010.*

**e. Town Attorney**

*No report.*

**VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**a. Community & Cultural Development - Chairman Peruzzotti**

*No meeting, no report.*

**b. Economic Development - Chairman Johnson**

*No meeting, no report.*

**c. Education/Health & Social Services - Chairman Kolnaski**

*No meeting, no report.*

**d. Environment/Energy - Chairman Sheets**

*No meeting, no report.*

**e. Finance - Chairman O'Beirne**

*No meeting, no report.*

**f. Personnel/Appointments/Rules - Chairman Flax**

*No meeting, no report.*

**g. Public Safety - Chairman Monteiro**

*No meeting, no report.*

**h. Public Works/Recreation - Chairman Watson**

*No meeting, no report.*

**i. Committee of the Whole - Mayor Streeter**

*The Mayor stated that the resolutions on tonight's agenda are a result of the last Committee of the Whole meeting.*

**j. Code of Ethics Task Force**

*Councilor Flax stated that at its meeting on February 25, 2010, the Code of Ethics Task Force continued preparation of a document for the Council to review.*

**IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

*None.*

**X. NEW BUSINESS**

**2003-0198 Public Water & Sewer on Flanders Road/Industrial area**

Public Water & Sewer on Flanders Road/Industrial area

*Councilor Peruzzotti requested a referral to the Committee of the Whole to discuss utilities on Flanders Road.*

**2010-0050 Townwide Residential Trash Collection**

TOWNWIDE RESIDENTIAL TRASH COLLECTION

*Councilor Peruzzotti requested a referral to the Public Works/Recreation Committee for discussion of residential trash collection and recyclables, including the possibility of working with the Public Works Department and other local towns that have a recycling program.*

**2010-0036 Connecticut Health Foundation Grant for Healthy Groton Month**

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PARKS AND RECREATION TO APPLY FOR A GRANT FROM THE CONNECTICUT HEALTH FOUNDATION

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Department is working with other departments, agencies, and groups to schedule health and wellness activities during the month of May to increase the overall health of the community, and

WHEREAS, there is an opportunity to apply for a \$5,000 non-matching fund grant from the Connecticut Health Foundation to help fund programs and marketing for May's "Healthy Groton Month," now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Parks and Recreation Department is authorized to apply for a \$5,000 grant from the Connecticut Health Foundation.

**A motion was made by Councilor Monteiro, seconded by Councilor Kolnaski, that this matter be Adopted.**

**The motion carried unanimously**

**2010-0038 Your Safety Company Grant**

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO APPLY FOR A GRANT FROM YOUR SAFETY COMPANY

WHEREAS, Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs) are an important resource when a person experiences a cardiac event, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Groton has been placing AEDs in Town buildings with high foot traffic including the Senior Center and Shennecossett Golf Course, and

WHEREAS, there is an opportunity to apply for a \$1,000.00 grant from Your Safety Company to purchase an AED for use in one of the Town buildings currently without a defibrillator, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Manager or his designated agent is authorized to apply for a \$1,000.00 grant from Your Safety Company

**A motion was made by Councilor Kolnaski, seconded by Councilor Peruzzotti, that this matter be Adopted.**

**The motion carried unanimously**

**2010-0042 Public Hearing on FYE 2011 Proposed Budget**

RESOLUTION SETTING PUBLIC HEARING DATE ON FYE 2011 PROPOSED BUDGET

RESOLVED, that the Groton Town Council will hold a public hearing on the FYE 2011 Proposed Budget, pursuant to Section 9.3.1 of the Town Charter, on Monday, March 29, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall Annex, Community Room 1, 134 Groton Long Point Road, Groton, Connecticut.

**A motion was made by Councilor Flax, seconded by Councilor Kolnaski, that this matter be Adopted.**

**The motion carried unanimously**

**2010-0044 Historic Documents Preservation Grant (FY2011)**

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXECUTE AND DELIVER A CONTRACT FOR A HISTORIC DOCUMENTS PRESERVATION GRANT

WHEREAS, the Town of Groton will benefit by the continuance of the Historic Document Preservation Program which will be enabled and enhanced by grant funding, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Mark R. Oefinger, Town Manager of the Town of Groton, is empowered to execute and deliver in the name and on behalf of this municipality a contract with the Connecticut State Library for an Historic Documents Preservation Grant.

**A motion was made by Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., seconded by Councilor Flax, that this matter be Adopted.**

**The motion carried unanimously**

**2010-0046 Connecticut Dial-A-Ride Grant**

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A GRANT AGREEMENT FOR THE TRANSPORTATION OF THE ELDERLY AND DISABLED

WHEREAS, since 2006, the Groton Town Council has authorized the Town Manager to apply for annual grants, and to enter into agreements, for Dial-a-Ride grants for the transportation of elderly and disabled persons, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Groton is eligible to participate in a regional effort, including pooled funding with several nearby towns, in which an apportioned Dial-a-Ride grant of \$44,519 for the Town of Groton is available from the State of Connecticut, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Town Manager Mark R. Oefinger is empowered and authorized to execute and

deliver in the name and on behalf of the Town of Groton a grant agreement with the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation on behalf of the Town of Groton for transportation services to elderly and disabled persons.

**A motion was made by Councilor Sheets, seconded by Councilor Watson, that this matter be Adopted.**

**The motion carried unanimously**

**XI. OTHER BUSINESS**

*Items to be addressed at the next Committee of the Whole meeting are discussion of Council goals, discussion of temporary rules, review of the budget calendar, and discussion of the referral for public water and sewer on Flanders Road.*

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

*A motion to adjourn at 8:24 p.m. was made by Councilor Watson, seconded by Councilor Monteiro and so voted unanimously.*

*Attest:*

*Betsy Moukawsher, Town Clerk  
Clerk of the Council*

*Lori Watrous, Office Assistant*